



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2016

CONTACT:

Sandra Maravilla

Communications Director

(909)387-4855

Sandra.Maravilla@bos.sbcounty.gov

Angelus Oaks gets Bear Proof Trash Cans

SAN BERNARDINO- On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Department of Public Works-Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) to conduct a twelve month pilot study in the Angelus Oaks area using bear-resistant collection containers. Empire Disposal, LLC is the franchise hauler in Angelus Oaks, and will absorb the monthly service cost for the bear-resistant containers for the duration of the pilot study with no charge to the county or customers.

The study will serve approximately 15-20 residential customers to determine if the use of bear-resistant containers will effectively reduce the amount of scavenging done in refuse containers by the local bear population.

The twelve-month study is expected to begin on or about October 1, 2016 and end on or about September 31, 2017. The hauler, Empire Disposal, LLC will provide to the county, information that staff will use to assess the pilot study. Such information may include, for example, the number of containers which were unlocked at the time of collection and contact information for the pilot study participants. This data, along with resident survey information to be sent to the county relative to the pilot study, will be analyzed by the county at the conclusion of the pilot study. At that time, SWMD will determine if continued and/or expanded use of the bear-resistant containers should be recommended for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor James Ramos commented, "Residents in Angelus Oaks have expressed concerns for public safety due to bears scavenging through their refuse containers, resulting in refuse scattered throughout the neighborhood. In response to these concerns, the franchise hauler was contacted to discuss the availability of bear-resistant

containers. Even though the study will be contacted on a pilot basis, we expect the study will provide enough data to determine whether or not bear-resistant bins are the permanent solution to this problem.”

More information on this item can be found in the May 24, 2016 Board agenda at <http://cob-sire.sbcounty.gov/sirepub/>.

###